



THE MORNING NEWS

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ELMAR N.V. unveils their Solar Energy Plan for the coming year



ELMAR Director Roberto Henriquez and Leo Boekhoudt handle questions

ELMAR N.V. is the entity that administrates and maintains the distribution network for Aruba's electric power, which is presently produced by W.E.B., and the Vader Piet Windmill Farm. Yesterday morning, ELMAR Director Roberto Henriquez and the Minister of Finance and Energy, Mike de Meza, addressed a gathering of businessmen and energy experts at the Renaissance Convention Center to explain a complete turnaround in philosophy for Aruba's power company.

Prior to this year, ELMAR had not been very encouraging in its policy regarding individuals wishing to install windmills or solar panels to take advantage of renewable energy sources, which Aruba has in abundance. A pillar of the political and economic policy of the current administration is taking advantage of every means or method possible to make Aruba a "green" island, independent from fossil fuel as soon as is feasible.

A few months ago, ELMAR began equipping their principle administrative centers with solar paneling to be more cost efficient, and

they are well pleased with the results. During yesterday's conference they explained their plan to assist in businesses and residences converting to solar power, even to the point of selling solar panels or solar thin film for lighter structures, with installation. Those deploying these technologies for their home or business would then be hooked into the ELMAR grid, using what they termed "legal" meters, and would receive credit for the energy they are feeding back into the system, thus vastly reducing their monthly current costs. Project Manager Leo Boekhoudt explained the hard numbers of what will be made available.

A project is planned for the airport which will feed

2MW or more into the grid, by placing a shade system in the parking lot made up of solar panels. At present, Aruba's system could handle approximately 5 to 10 MW being pumped into the grid, which means that an additional 3MW can come from individual homes or business structures fitted out to harness solar energy; possibly 8 MW total, once engineers see how the present system handles the inflow. These figures have come from consultations with Dutch and U.S. experts who have thoroughly examined Aruba's system and evaluated its limits and possibilities.

The amount of energy pro-



Questions from Daniel Aguirre

vided by the standard system for home and the amount ELMAR can deploy would allow for perhaps 300 homes to be fitted with solar power; 600 homes if the system can accommodate the maximum. Aruba has around 35,000 private residences at present.

Continued on page 3

New Law regarding social formation is not obligatory

This week the government submitted to Parliament a proposal for a new law which offers young people an alternative. Young people who may have deviated from the right track may now have an alternative to help them back in the right direction. However, the government wants everyone to know that the new law does not mandate that young people choose the alternative being offered. It is not obligatory.

During the submission of the law to Parliament president Croes, the Prime Minister intimated that the original intention was to make the law obligatory, but they encountered several judicial obstacles which complicated the obligatory path of the law. And, based on the advice of the Government Advisory Counsel they decided to forego that element.

Nonetheless there will be an obligatory component that the student will sign for once they are in the program. The student must commit himself to follow through on the various phases of the training process.

This program is particu-

larly directed to young men, primarily because the program will be carried out at the Marines Camp which is not equipped for receiving females. The Prime Minister hopes that some adjustments could be made to adapt the Camp, because there are young women who are also interested in the program.

The Marines will be fully in charge of our young people during a 4 month stretch. They constructed special barracks for this program. The Employment for Education program will be responsible for developing the study programs for the skills training that the youngsters may choose.

The government has obtained a list of between 200 to 300 young people who qualify for this program of social reform. The next step is to ascertain how many of these young people are unemployed and is not enrolled in a school. The Marines don't want to begin with a large group. They prefer to work with a group that they know they can manage effectively and in a responsible manner.

MAMBO conducting a "Back to school" Bazaar

ORANJESTAD – MAMBO, the retail business association of Oranjestad is very happy to continue with its promotions for all the main stores in the downtown. Don't miss the tremendous 'Back to School' bazaar MAMBO has organized for today, July 30. Once again the businesses in the main street will have sidewalk sales offering everything our youngsters need for back to school such as trendy shoes, sneakers, jeans, and uniforms, at very attractive prices. The library stores will also offer

great deals on the latest in stationary, schoolbags and school supplies

The main street will be closed for traffic from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. with entertainment and activities throughout the day.

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

Rio-Paris crash pilots lacked training: probe

PARIS (AFP) - Pilots of an Air France plane that crashed into the Atlantic in 2009 killing 228 people were not trained to handle the jet when it stalled in rough weather, investigators said Friday.

The French flag carrier insisted the pilots were not to blame after French aviation authority BEA said they failed to handle the plane when its speed sensors froze up and its autopilot system failed high over the Atlantic.

"Neither of the pilots formally identified the stall situation" when the plane started dropping, despite an alarm ringing for nearly a minute, it said in a report.

"The co-pilots had received no high altitude training for unreliable IAS (indicated air speed) procedure and manual air craft handling," the report said.

Air France immediately de-

fended its pilots, however, saying the stall alarm had malfunctioned.

"Nothing at this stage can allow the crew's technical competence to be blamed" for the crash, the airline said in a statement.

It pointed to the failure of the speed sensors which it said contributed to "a worsened and unstable piloting environment".

The BEA said the speed sensors, known as Pitots, malfunctioned when the jet hit rough weather during the overnight flight on June 1, 2009.

They said the captain of the flight had gone out of the cockpit to rest, leaving two co-pilots "without clear operational instructions".

Air France insisted: "The crew on duty showed professionalism and stayed committed until the end to operating

the flight.

"The altitude-loss alarm was activated and deactivated several times contradicting the real status of the aircraft, which contributed strongly to the crew's difficulty in analysing the situation," Air France said.

The BEA recommended "the regulatory authorities re-examine the content of training (for pilots) and in particular make mandatory the creation of regular specific exercises aimed at manual airplane handling" in the event of a stall.

Air France and Airbus are being investigated for alleged manslaughter in connection with the crash.

The airline replaced the Pitots, manufactured by French company Thales, on its Airbus planes with a newer model after the crash.

The BEA said it would make its final report in 2012.

Dutch police arrest Iraqi man on terrorism charges

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch police have arrested an Iraqi man suspected of wanting to join Al-Qaeda in Syria and planning to commit an attack, prosecutors said Friday.

"The man wanted to travel to Syria to join Al-Qaeda and then possibly commit an attack in Iraq or Palestine," said a statement issued by the public prosecutors' office in Rotterdam.

Dutch secret service (AIVD) agents tracked the

man, 34, after an investigation into Islamic extremist networks. He was not identified.

The man, who lived in Almere, about 30 kilometres (18 miles) east of Amsterdam, was arrested on Tuesday, the statement said.

He appeared before a Dutch court Friday on a charge of being "suspected of being involved in terrorism" and his case was remanded for two weeks, it added.

Amnesty urges Iran to free US hikers



A picture released by Iran's state-run Press TV shows US hikers Shane Bauer (L) and Josh Fattal in February 2011.

LONDON (AFP) - Amnesty on Friday renewed calls for Iran to release two young US hikers held on spying charges since July 2009, two days ahead of a fresh hearing in their case.

"Iranian authorities have held these men for two years, subjecting them to legal proceedings that fall far short of international fair trial standards," the London-based organisation said.

"The parody of justice must end here. By now it seems clear that the Iranian authorities have no legal basis for continuing to hold these

US nationals, so they must be released and allowed to leave the country."

Shane Bauer, 28, and Josh Fattal, 29, were arrested with Sarah Shourd, 32, on the unmarked Iran-Iraq border on July 31, 2009. Tehran has accused the three of "spying and illegally entering the country."

They have pleaded not guilty to spying charges, saying they were hiking in northern Iraq's autonomous Kurdish region when they innocently strayed into Iran across the border.

Washington has vehemently denied Tehran's charges and has pressed for their release.

Shourd is being tried in absentia after she returned to the United States following her release on humanitarian and medical grounds in September 2010, for which bail of about 500,000 dollars was paid.

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Pakistan Taliban put on UN terror list

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - The UN Security Council on Friday put the Pakistan Taliban on its international anti-terrorism sanctions list in a move highlighting the growing threat from the group.

The 15-nation council also put a radical Chechen Islamist group, Emarat Kavkaz, led by Russia's most wanted man Doku Umarov on its sanctions list.

The adding of the Tehrik-E-Taliban Pakistan group to the sanctions list comes as the Security Council eases pressure on the Afghan Taliban in a bid to encourage it to join peace moves in Afghanistan.

The Pakistan Taliban has however been blamed for attacks that have left hundreds

dead in Pakistan but also been linked to an attempted bombing in Times Square, New York last year.

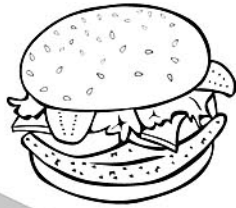
The group emerged in 2007 in Pakistan's lawless tribal zones on the border with Afghanistan as the Pakistan military against Al-Qaeda linked radicals.

The Pakistan Taliban has vowed to overthrow the government and particularly targeted the military and politicians for attacks and assassinations.

Tehrik-E-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) leader Hakimullah Mehsud has been on the UN sanctions list since last October because of his links to Al-Qaeda and the Afghan Taliban.

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HospiBondi completes 19th employee children's camp



This year marks the 19th year that children of Aruba Hospital employees get an opportunity to attend the HospiBondi Camp. This is a camping organized by colleagues for colleagues. The most important aspect of this exiting camp is that employees can go to work for two weeks without having to worry about what to do with their children. They drop them off at the camp and know that they will be in excellent care. Obviously the Supervisory Board of the Hospital makes this program happen with a sizeable financial assistance to cover the cost of the program.

The HospiBondi Camp is

an extensive two week program where children between the ages of 4 to 12 can enjoy themselves to the hilt. The program begins on the first day with words of welcome from members of the camp as well as from Dr. Arnoud Boesten of the Supervisory Board of the Hospital. That gets the camp off to their first event...the beach, then unlimited games, a trip to the movies and then to the bowling lanes. They also visit the Parke Arawa and the Parke Curason. Every morning the kids begin with physical exercises. Then there is the popular "suikerspin" or sugar candy and popcorn.

On the last day of the Camp they present a grand show for parents and friends. This year's show has Aruba's 25 years Status Aparte as its main theme.

The Supervisory Board of the Hospital is pleased that they could have sponsored 19 successful HospiBondi camps! Special praise was extended to the pillars of the HospiBondi Camp...Stella, Nora, Joan, Benita and Ludwina. They were also very grateful for the assistant leaders who year after year work tirelessly so that the employee's children could have an enjoyable two weeks full of fun and excitement.

ELMAR N.V. unveils their Solar Energy Plan...

Continued from page 1

Mr. Boekhoudt explained that consumers interested in adapting their residence to a solar system should contact them to evaluate the best system for their circumstance, whether panels, which are quite heavy, or film which is considerably lighter, but not as efficient, and more costly per kilowatt. ELMAR also asks that anyone wishing to order a panel system through them submit their requirements as soon as possible, because when they order the panels for the airport project, they can also order for private buyers, thus providing them with a better price for ordering in quantity. Also there are specifications in regards to placing the panels or film for optimal efficiency (e.g. if fixed, they should be angled to face south.) He confirmed they would allow systems that have been installed by outside parties, but the interface must comply with ELMAR's metering standards.

Roberto Henriquez, during the Q & A at the end of the presentation, affirmed his position regarding harnessing solar energy as the optimal method ELMAR should pursue, but explained they are consulting with TNO in Holland and the Caribbean Research Institute on the newest technologies and what would be best for Aruba logistically.



Questions from Parliamentarian Donny Rasmijn

"We all recognize the necessity of a sustainable power supply and independence from fossil fuels," he responded to one questioner, "we are looking towards stabilizing energy costs for the consumer and looking at the long-term, most cost efficient methods, but it is tricky; there is no single answer."

It was mentioned that average power consumption of a private home in Mexico is approximately 100 KW per month; the average Aruba home uses about 600KW, which places the island in close company with the U.S. at 700 KW. Aruba homes use on an average nearly double to their neighboring islands of Curacao and Bonaire, so Aruban consumers should also examine their habits regarding power use at home.

by Rosalie Klein



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"RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. rewards best graduates of VWO, HAVO and MAVO"



Recently, RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. rewarded the best graduates of this school year. RBTT Bank Aruba N.V. recognizes this big accomplishment and presented all the best graduates a gift as a stimulus.

Photos show Laura Eymann, Timothy Kross, Melissa Agunbero, Ahnaïssa Christiaans and Nicole Pearce receiving a gift from Mrs. Edna Farro, President & Country Head RBTT Bank Aruba N.V.



British MP apologises to Piers Morgan over hacking claim

LONDON, England (AFP) - A British lawmaker apologised to US talk show host Piers Morgan yesterday for suggesting that he used phone hacking when he was a tabloid newspaper editor.

"I wrongly stated that Piers Morgan, formerly editor of the Daily Mirror, had been open about personally hacking phones in a book he wrote," Conservative MP Louise Mensch wrote in a letter released to the press.

Mensch is a member of the parliamentary committee which questioned media tycoon Rupert Murdoch, his son James and his former aide Rebekah Brooks on July 19 about phone hacking at the now closed News of the World.

During her questioning, she claimed that Morgan boasted about using a phone hacking "trick" to win a scoop of the year award.

This sparked outrage from the former journalist, a one-time editor of the News of the World, who accused Mensch of a "blatant lie."

In a letter to the chairman of the media committee, John Whittingdale, Mensch said the claim was based on her "misreading" of a newspaper article.

"Therefore, I must apologise to Mr. Morgan and the committee for this error about his book," she said.



Piers Morgan

In a showdown with Mensch on live US television after the committee hearing, Morgan challenged her to repeat her claims outside the protective walls of parliament, within which she cannot be sued for libel. When she refused, he accused her of "cowardice," saying her claim was a "blatant lie."

"For the record, in my time at the Mirror and the News of the World I have never hacked a phone, told anybody to hack a phone or published any story based on the hacking of a phone," he said.

Morgan was sacked as editor of the Daily Mirror in 2004 for publishing fake photos of British soldiers purportedly abusing Iraqis in Basra, but has reinvented himself as a television interviewer in the United States.

Mensch, an author, was elected as a lawmaker for Prime Minister David Cameron's Conservative Party in May last year.

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Caribbean wants more UN representation in the region

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, CMC – The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has expressed concern over the decrease in United Nations (UN) representation in the region.

"There was, first, the closure of the UNODC Office in Barbados, even while it was simultaneously being acknowledged that crime posed one of the biggest threats to our region, and more recently there has been the closure of the UNDP Regional Office in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago," said acting CARICOM Secretary General Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite.

Addressing the Sixth General Meeting of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations System, Ambassador Applewhaite said that the region was also expressing its concern that the Port of Spain-based Sub-Regional headquarters of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has been without a Director since Neil Pierre, a well-respected Caribbean national, demitted office in early 2010.

"We in CARICOM are of the firm belief, that while we enjoy very good working relations with our counterparts at the head office in New York, much more can be achieved by having a stronger UN presence in the region, with the appropriate level of representation.

"We trust that this is a matter which the UN will take into favourable consideration and we look forward to positive feedback in the near future, regarding the re-opening of these critical agencies and the relevant appointments, which, we are confident, will enhance an already strong partnership," she said.

The World Health Organization (WHO)

ranks Aruba's drinking water as meeting the highest safety standards. Please drink the water



UK shops launch Christmas displays - with 149 days to go

With 149 days still to go before Christmas, London's Harrods and Selfridges department stores have launched their earliest ever Christmas displays.

"Sales in previous years have proved that customers are ready to start thinking about Christmas in the summer, especially visitors from overseas," Selfridges said.

"This year, Selfridges' international visitors have already increased by over 40 percent (from the same period last year), which has encouraged Selfridges to reconsider its traditional August Christmas shop opening, bringing it forward to July for the first time."

Last year Selfridges' Christmas section doubled its sales compared to 2009 in its first week of trade, when



more than 2,000 baubles were sold.

"Tourists from countries including China, Russia, Asia, India and USA see choosing a beautiful Christmas decoration as the perfect

memento from a foreign trip flock to Selfridges during the summer months," said the company, which has its flagship store on Oxford Street.

Geraldine James, Selfridges Christmas shop buying

manager said: "Christmas is coming earlier each year. I can see a time when we offer a capsule Christmas collection throughout the year."

London's Evening Standard cited Selfridges as saying many tourists from the Middle East had asked to buy Christmas decorations before going home for Ramadan, the Muslim month of fasting, starting on Monday.

A Harrods spokesman said its Christmas display, which like Selfridges' mini shop opened on Thursday, aims to respond to demand from tourists visiting the UK from June to August.

To mark the launch of Christmas World, the Kensington store's Father Christmas served ice cream in a choice of 12 "yuletide" flavours.

Sci-Tech

'Trojan' asteroid shares Earth's orbit

PARIS (AFP) - Earth is not alone in its orbit around the Sun - a small 'Trojan' asteroid sits in front of our planet and leads it, according to British science revue Nature, which published the discovery Thursday.

This diminutive asteroid has a diameter of just 300 metres but is called a Trojan because of its particular position in a stable spot either in front of a planet or behind it. Because the asteroid and planet are constantly on the same orbit, they can never collide.

Jupiter, Mars and Neptune also have Trojan asteroids accompanying them, as do two of Saturn's moons.

NASA scientists discovered the asteroid, which lies 80 million kilometres (50 million miles) from Earth, using its Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) telescope.

Astronomers have long

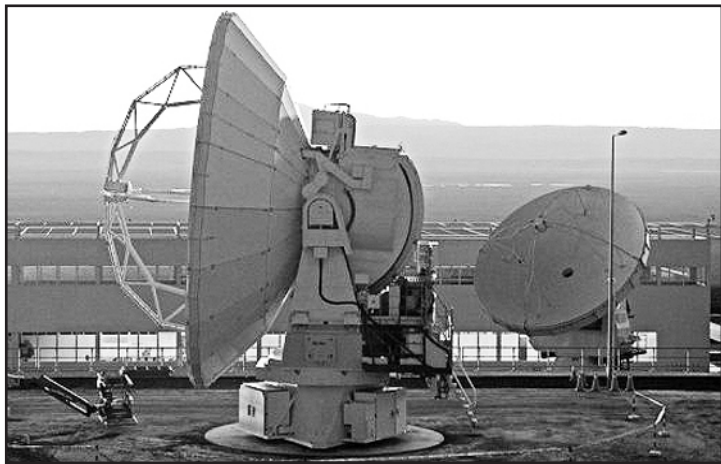
thought that Earth did have some Trojans but their discovery has proved elusive because of the difficulty of seeing them in daylight.

"WISE was a game-changer, giving us a point of view difficult to have at Earth's surface", said Martin Connors, a professor at Canada's Athabasca University and the lead author on the Nature paper on the discovery.

Our Trojan -- which is officially called 2010 TK7 -- has an unusual orbit that takes it further away from the sun than most Trojans go, moving above and below the line of the orbit, which is what attracted scientists' attention.

This asteroid is keeping its distance: its orbit is "stable for at least 1,000 years", says Connors, and it won't be coming nearer than 24 million kilometres (15 million miles) from Earth over the next 100 years, says NASA.

World's largest radio telescope gears up in Chile



SANTIAGO (AFP) - The world's largest network of radio telescopes is ready to begin the first phase of operations in northern Chile's Atacama Desert, an observatory announced Thursday.

The ALMA complex, under construction for over a decade, received on Wednesday the 16th of 66 total antennas, enough to "begin its first science observations, and is therefore an important milestone for the project," said the European Southern Observatory, which operates Chile's Paranal observatory.

Antenna 16, measuring 12 meters (40 feet) in diameter and weighing nearly 100 tons, is the first European contribution to the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array project as part of a collaboration with United States and Japan.

It was delivered at the Chajnantor plateau, 5,000 meters (16,400 feet) above sea level, where it joined antennas from the other international ALMA partners. The European AEM Consortium, under contract from ESO, manufactured the antenna.

"ALMA's Early Science observations are planned to begin later this year. Although ALMA will still be under construction, the 16-antenna array that will be available already outmatches all other telescopes of this kind," ESO said in a statement.

When it reaches full operational capacity, ALMA will have a resolution 10 times greater than the Hubble Space Telescope.

The program has an estimated budget of \$600 million.

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Internet Explorer users have lowest IQ of all web surfers, study shows

By Andrew Coutts | Digital Trends

A newly released study has found that users of Microsoft's line of Internet Explorer browsers have the lowest IQs, on average, than people who regularly use other web browsers. Conversely, Opera users have the highest average IQ.

The study (PDF) comes via Vancouver-based "psychometric consulting company" AptiQuant, who tested 101,326 people, from English-speaking countries, over the course of four weeks, using the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale to determine their intellectual prowess.

"Because cognitive scores

are related to tech-savviness," the researchers write in the study, "we hypothesized that the choice of web browser is related to cognitive ability of an individual."

While the study is not on par with, say, a scientific paper, and IQ is hardly the only factor in determining a person's full intellect, the report certainly does a lot to make non-IE users feel good about themselves.

Perched at the pinnacle of brainpower are users of Opera, who scored an average IQ of 126.5. Mozilla's Mac-specific browser, Camino, came in a close second, with a score of 124.4. As you might expect, the most

widely used browsers fell somewhere in the middle: Safari users scored a 113.5; Chrome, 111.2; and Firefox, 108.7.

Crowded at the bottom of the brain heap are users of Internet Explorer. Of those, users of IE 9 had the best score, about an 87. And it just goes down hill from there, with each previous version's users scoring worse and worse. The plunge ends with IE 6 users, who scored about an 82.

"From the test results, it is a clear indication that individuals on the lower side of the IQ scale tend to resist a change/upgrade of their browsers," AptiQuant writes. The company also says that this information should add another nail to the coffin of the Internet Explorer line.

"It is common knowledge, that Internet Explorer Versions to 6.0 to 8.0 are highly incompatible with modern web standards," the company writes. "In order to make websites work properly on these browsers, web developers have to spend a lot of unnecessary effort.... Now that we have a statistical pattern on the continuous usage of incompatible browsers, better steps can be taken to eradicate this nuisance."

Apple, Samsung overtake Nokia in smartphone market

Apple and Samsung have overtaken long-time leader Nokia for the top two spots in the global smartphone market, a report said Friday, underscoring the Finnish handset maker's ongoing struggles.

US-based research firm Strategy Analytics said the US and Korean smartphone makers outpaced Nokia in the second quarter, with the sector posting record quarterly shipments of 110 million units, or a 76.3 percent year-on-year rise.

"Just four years after the release of the original iPhone, Apple has become the world's largest smartphone vendor by volume," the report said.

The US company's global market share grew to 18.5 percent, up from 13.5 percent last year, and propelling it to top spot in the smartphone market, Research Analytics said.

"Apple's growth remained strong as it expanded distribution worldwide, particularly

in China and Asia," it added.

Samsung's smartphone market share in the second quarter jumped to 17.5 percent from five percent a year earlier, making it the world's second-biggest smartphone producer, the report added.

Nokia's market share meanwhile slumped to 15.2 percent from 38.1 percent during the second quarter last year, it said.

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Health & Living

Guinea polio vaccination drive targets 1.25 million children

CONAKRY (AFP) - Guinean authorities and international organisations launched a drive to vaccinate 1.25 million children against polio as the dreaded childhood disease resurges in parts of Africa.

The campaign began in Mandiana in the east of the country near the Ivory Coast border, where a case of polio was recorded in May, according to a joint statement by the health ministry and the UN children's fund UNICEF, which is working on the campaign with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

The operation, which will end Monday, aims to "prevent poliomyelitis in all 15 prefectures of three high-risk administrative regions which are Faranah (centre), Kankan (east) and Nserekore (south-east)," the statement said.

About 1.25 million children up to five years old should receive the anti-poliomyelitis vaccine, it said.

The vaccination campaign is underway at the same time as those in other African countries such as Mali, Ivory Coast and Nigeria which have seen cases of polio in recent years, a blow to efforts to completely eradicate the disease.

In an interview with AFP in May, Microsoft magnate and philanthropist Bill Gates - who has poured millions into the fight to eradicate the disease -- slammed African leaders for failing to vaccinate children.

The WHO says one sick child can "contaminate 200 others".

The world is 99 percent towards making polio the second disease to be wiped out, after smallpox. The paralyzing disease, which once terrorised the developed world, exists now only in a few countries.



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New antibody propels hunt for universal flu vaccine

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The first human antibody that can knock out all influenza A viruses has been shown effective in lab mice, an exciting step forward in the hunt for a universal vaccine, researchers said.

The broadly neutralizing antibody, called FI6, could help vaccinate people against the flu without scientists

struggling to piece together a new cocktail each season to match the often-changing strains.

Antonio Lanzavecchia, lead author of the study published this week in the US journal Science, described the finding as "significant," but noted it may be five years before it can be made into a widely available treatment.

The antibody was found in plasma cells from a human donor. When given to mice heavily dosed with flu viruses, it was able to knock out the illness, offering hope for use as a remedy in people who get infected with the flu.

The discovery was made by using newly patented technology to screen hundreds of thousands of plasma cells in

order to isolate the rare ones that produced the antibody.

The antibody was tested in all 16 subtypes of A flu viruses and consistently worked against the often-changing hemagglutinin (HA), the protein that is on the virus's surface.

Mice and ferrets recovered from what would have otherwise been a lethal dose of flu

virus when they were given the antibody within two days of infection.

British virologist John Skehel, at the Medical Research Council's National Institute for Medical Research at Mill Hill, said the finding may eliminate the need to combine different antibodies into a single shot against the flu every season.

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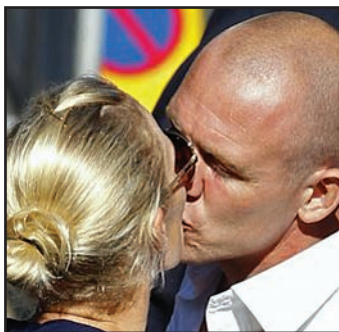

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Zara Phillips weds rugby player



Britain today celebrates its second royal wedding of the season, with equestrian star Zara Phillips — eldest granddaughter of Queen Elizabeth II — taking center stage as she marries England rugby stalwart Mike Tindall.

The nuptials of Phillips, 30, and Tindall, 32, are expected to be far more low-key than William's wedding in late April, which was watched live on television throughout much of the world. Phillips who does not carry a royal title and Tindall prefer to stay out of the limelight when they are not competing, and the wedding has been organized to reflect their desires.

Cedric Croes Wins a Car at The Casino at the Radisson



It was a memorable fun night at the Casino at the Radisson when Cedric Croes, a loyal and deserving customer of the casino won the cute Suzuki Swift which had been on display at the casino for ten weeks, for the duration of the slot and table games promotion.

The evening's entertainment program created an elevated lever of excitement, as the raffle progressed from small gifts such as breakfast at Laguna restaurant to dinner at Laguna restaurant, and massage at Larimar Spa, then surprise, Cedric Croes won a digital camera and immediately thereafter, his name came up again as the winner of the ultimate prize, the



brand new blue car.

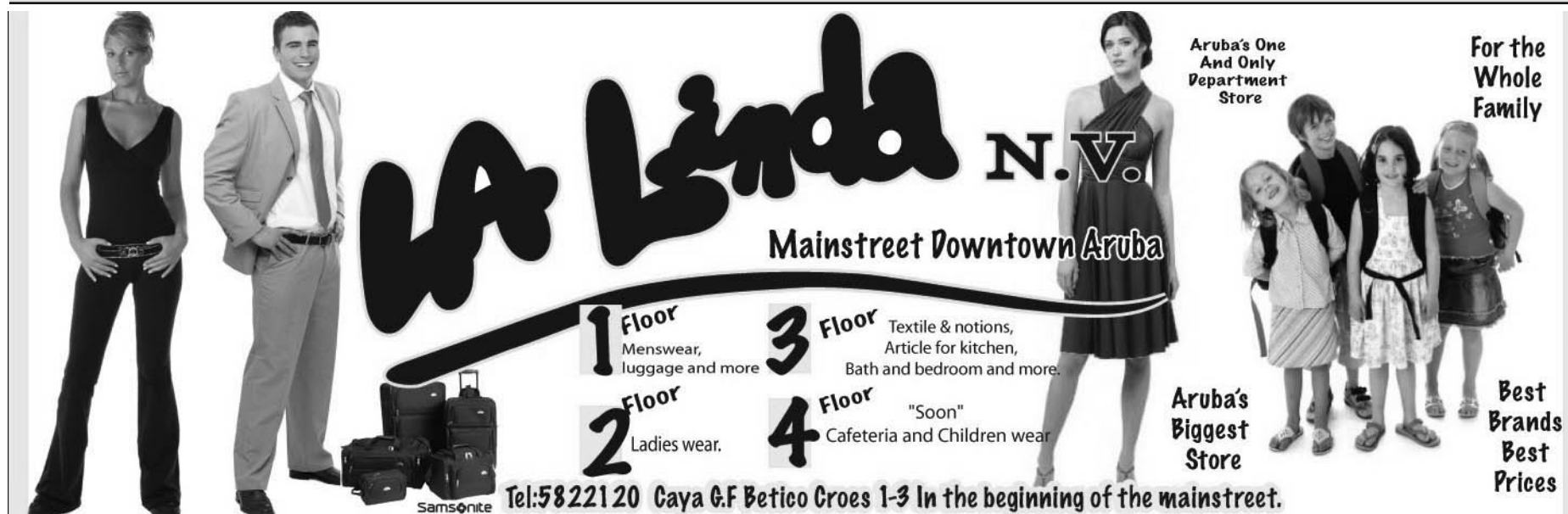
Croes reports he enjoyed visiting the casino occasionally and having won twice just confirmed his belief in lady luck, and in her exciting and unpredictable way!

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"Give art a valuable place in your life." Exhibition by Waldy Simson at Garage Cordia Aruba

Starting this Monday, August 1 until Friday October 28, versatile artist Waldy Simson will host an exhibition at Garage Cordia Aruba, located at Camacuri 8.

The exhibition is a part of the fundraising activities by Simson to get the necessary funds to host some exhibitions abroad.

On exhibit will be, among others, tiffany, paper cuttings and paintings.

Opening hours are from Monday until Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



For more information readers can contact Waldy Simson at 562-6581, 585-7472, or e-mail at waldysimson@hotmail.com or via facebook.

ArtRules Aruba 2011 has been running a successful second year

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Already full underway; Art Rules Aruba is in the middle of its second week preparing for its final showcases at the end of the program.

This year Art Rules Aruba will have 2 presentations, the first being at Cas di Cultura on Saturday July 30th, 7 p.m. Students will host events in both the theater and exhibition space as they present the public some of the work they have learned and produced during the program.

This final showcase is expected to once again turn into a multimedia/theatrical extravaganza with performances, music, dancing, acting, short films, a complete fashion show and an exhibition all in one.

This second presentation will be on Sunday July 31st, 4 pm, with an unveiling of the 25

Ana Status Aparte Mural at the San Nicolas Bus station. The mural commemorates 25 Year Status Aparte as a contribution to community of San Nicolas. All made possible with the help of Valero, the San Nicolas Business Association, Custom Contractors and the Departamento di Cultura, the unveiling of the Mural will take place from 4pm to 6pm.

Tickets for the final showcase on Saturday are \$10/Afls.18 and can be purchased at Cas di Cultura, Atelier 89, Scol di Arte or by dialing 566-5541 and reserved directly from the Pancake Gallery Foundation.

The unveiling of the wall will be completely free and hosted by Starbucks whom will be offering delightful refreshments during the event.



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ACROSS

1. Mongolian desert
5. Rds.
8. Novel's protagonist
12. Adam's abode
13. Fryer's need
14. PDQ, in a memo
15. Nays
16. One, in French
17. Satisfy fully
18. James of "Gunsmoke"

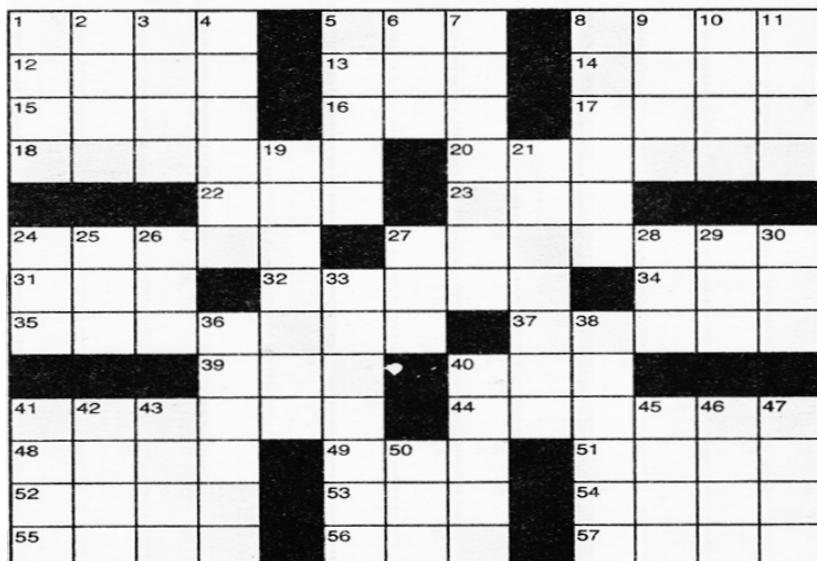
20. Distributed
22. Zenith rival (abbr.)
23. Set
24. Glee
27. Menacing remarks
31. Dead heat
32. Show feelings
34. Exceedingly
35. Health capsule
37. Some tides
39. "Gentle ____"
40. Drenched
41. "Watch out!"
44. Video game parlor
48. Large wading bird
49. Cousin or nephew (abbr.)

51. Car beeper
52. Cellophane
53. Large ocean (abbr.)
54. Author Bagnold
55. Regarded
56. Part of L.A.
57. Insurance agents (abbr.)

DOWN

1. Actress Rowlands
2. Air freshener target
3. "I've ____ thinking..."
4. Newspaper supplement
5. March man

6. Food can
7. Magician's ____ of hand
8. Annoy
9. Jacob's twin
10. Assess
11. Page for viewpoints (hyph.)
19. Plotter
21. More tranquil
24. Teen's rock sta.
25. Clock numeral
26. Went on a pension (abbr.)
27. Like a ____ of bricks
28. ____ loss (2 wds.)
29. Spinning toy
30. Help call
33. Uranium, for one
36. Dishonored
38. Engraver
40. Mural sites
41. Vampire's attack
42. On-line auction house
43. Towel off
45. Top-drawer (2 wds.)
46. Plumbing leak
47. Terminates
50. Ike's theater



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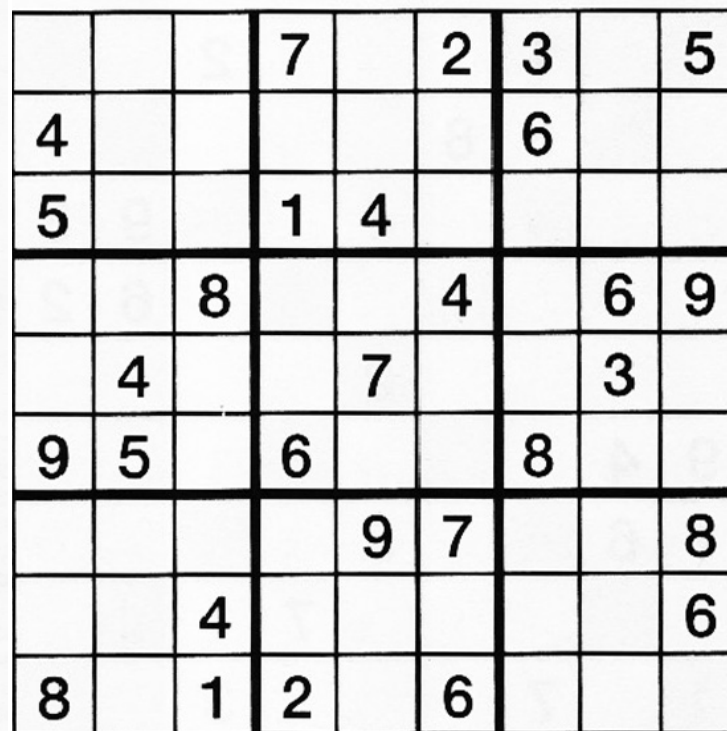
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9	9	2	8	1	6	9	9
8	2	1	2	6	9	9	8
9	2	8	1	2	9	8	6
1	8	9	6	2	8	2	9
6	9	2	9	8	9	8	1
2	8	6	8	9	1	9	2
2	1	9	9	8	6	2	8
9	9	8	2	9	2	6	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

Debt battle hits business confidence: analysts

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The grinding political fight over US government spending and debt is preventing businesses from pushing ahead with investments and taking a toll on the economy, economists say.

While data is limited, they say business and consumer confidence surveys show clear sharp drops in recent weeks related to the unclear direction of government policy and worries that failure to raise the country's debt ceiling before August 2 would further damage the economy.

"I think the debate in Washington is hurting the economy. It is showing up in the data. It's having a tangible negative impact," said Aaron Smith, a senior economist at Moody's Analytics.

He cited declines in recent business confidence surveys where "the deterioration has been more pronounced than what you would expect."

There is also anecdotal evidence of businesses saying they are holding off investment and hiring, though there are no aggregate measures of this.

"It seems like businesses may have held back capital spending," Andrew Gledhill, another Moody's economist, told AFP. "They're clearly discouraged."

The political deadlock over the debt ceiling "is a real hangup right now" but, he added, "not the only hangup."

Given the near-stalled rate of economic growth -- an an-

nual pace of about one percent for the first half, according to data released Friday -- US businesses have a lot to worry about.

But Smith and others said that surveys point to frustration with the political situation in Washington, with no clear direction on economic policy for months on end.

It is hitting consumers' willingness to spend as well, he added.

The University of Michigan's consumer sentiment

index for July, released Friday, saw a sharp decline to its lowest level since October 2009, four months after the economy exited the worst recession in decades.

"The bickering in Washington DC over the debt ceiling is not a good thing for consumer confidence."

The White House also claimed Friday that "some damage has been done" by the budget and debt battle, but gave no specific details.

EU members agree Brussels draft as basis for budget talks

SOPOT (AFP) - EU nations agreed Friday to use controversial plans from Brussels as the basis for talks on the bloc's next budget, though austerity-focused governments have blasted proposed hikes.

"The vast majority of member states -- 24 out of 27 --- accepted our proposals as a good starting point for negotiations," EU budget chief Janusz Lewandowski told reporters after talks called by Poland, which currently holds the bloc's rotating presidency.

Lewandowski declined to identify the holdouts.

Sources said they were Britain; Sweden, which wants less farm spending and more on research; and Hungary, which fears losing a slice of funds that help poorer economies catch up with their richer neighbours.

The Sopot talks marked only a first step in a gruelling process that will run into 2012, but Lewandowski said the non-binding decision was crucial.

In the kinder economic climate of 2004, governments shot down an initial budget plan, he noted.

The European Commission -- the EU's Brussels-based executive body --

unveiled a draft budget for 2014-2020 in June.

It faced a hail of fire for planning a five-percent rise from the previous seven-year cycle, increasing spending to 1,083 billion euros (\$1,552 billion).

David Lidington, Britain's EU affairs minister, said such a rise could not be justified in hard economic times.

Despite not rejecting the proposal outright Friday, fellow "big three" players France and Germany also insisted Brussels be frugal.

The draft focuses strongly on bolstering cross-border energy, telecoms and transport grids, to streamline integration in the world's biggest market.

The plan foresees an EU sales tax and a financial transactions tax -- backed by France but opposed by Britain -- to help Brussels raise its own funds and reduce the EU's direct dependence on member states for its budget.

Brussels says the sales levy, representing another one or two percentage points of national value-added tax, and the transactions tax, worth an annual 30 billion euros, would bring in 40 percent of EU revenue.

US economy grinds to near-stall

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US economy stagnated in the first half of 2011, official data showed Friday, raising new recession alarms as political gridlock over deficits leads the country to the brink of a debt default.

The Commerce Department reported that gross domestic product grew only 1.3 percent in the second quarter, after a dead-pace 0.4 percent in the first, the weakest growth since the economy officially exited recession two years ago.

Both numbers sharply undercut earlier estimates and forecasts -- originally first-quarter growth had been put at 1.9 percent -- and raised doubts about widespread forecasts of a 3.0 percent-plus pace for the rest of the year.

"This is a shockingly weak GDP report that shows the economy growing at less than a 1.0 percent pace in the first half of the year," said John Ryding and Conrad De-

Quadros at RDQ Economics.

Consumer spending, which accounts for the majority of US output, stalled in the second quarter, amid high unemployment and inflation-eroded incomes.

The Treasury says it could run out of money to pay some of its obligations by Tuesday.

With no sign of an agreement in Congress, economists and markets are increasingly worried that missing the August 2 deadline will cause the United States to lose its top triple-A credit rating, triggering a further hit to the economy.

The poor GDP report added to gloom on Wall Street. The Dow index plunged on in opening trade and closed almost 97 points lower, down 0.8 percent for the day.

A top adviser to President Barack Obama said the weak economic data underscored the need for politicians to break the budget impasse.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

DEF	SPR	TGIF
RAE	TOIL	EURO
SUB	POENA	PIKE
RPM	REIN	
ASHES	MILDEST	
CHOP	DEAL	VIE
TAM	WATTS	ERS
ENE	EVES	BRET
DESPAIR	BLESS	
TORN	LOU	
LIEU	CERRIES	
OMAR	IONE	NIP
WADS	EDS	DNA



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Parents guide to skin protection

It's important to protect your children's skin from the damaging effects of the sun. No matter what they're doing or what time of year it is, if they are outdoors, they need to be protected.

Aruba is one of the places in the world where the sun is the strongest. Located only 12.5 degrees north of the equator, the sun shines with maximum strength and penetrates the atmosphere with a maximum amount of UV rays. What most people don't know on water and sand, which means that even in the shade you need protection.

Protecting the skin from the sun during childhood and adolescence is important in reducing cancer risks later in life. By building safe sun habits into your family's daily routine, you will make your children understand and get used to being protected against the sun and they will become more aware of the harmful effects it can have to their skin. Parents should take the lead by giving the good example; children will respond better when they see their parents protecting their skin as well.



Important recommendations:

- Wear protective clothing when out in the sun. Choose shirts and slacks made of tightly woven fabrics that you can't see through when held up to light.
- Cover up with Hats. Choose hats that shade your child's face, neck and ears.
- Apply Sunscreen every day on skin that is not protected by clothing or a hat. Choose a sunscreen with a high Sun Protection Factor (SPF) such as Aruba Aloe's Waterproof SPF 30 sunscreen for maximum protection. For babies and children under 2 years old, make sure to use a special sunscreen that gives extra protection for the sensitive skin such as "Waterproof Babies SPF 30" from Aruba Aloe. Remember to reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling dry if you use a sunscreen that is not waterproof.
- Use sunscreen even on hazy or overcast days.
- Keep an extra bottle of sunscreen in the car.
- Pack a bottle of sunscreen in your child's bag.
- Use Sunglasses that block UV rays and protect the eyes and the surrounding tender skin.
- Play in the Shade. The sun's rays are generally strongest from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. If your children are outdoors, make sure their skin is protected.
- Teach your children the shadow rule. When outside, if your shadow is shorter than you are, it means that the sun is high in the sky and the UV rays are most intense.
- Protect children younger than 6 months of age with clothing and keep them in the shade.

For more advice on how to best protect your and your children's skin against the sun, please call Aruba Aloe: 588-3222 or visit the website www.ArubaAloe.com

Aruba Aloe products are available at most hotels, supermarkets, pharmacies and the Aruba Aloe Stores.



Buster's Garage in South Beach Center: One place for the whole family

Buster's Garage, a New York City landmark, made its way to Aruba about a year ago, and found a new home at the South Beach Center across from the Radisson Resort. Dedicated to the sports fanatic, the spacious but homey interior is the perfect place to keep up with your favorite team and have a great meal.

Fun for all the family, Buster's has typical sport bar fare such as chicken wings, quesadillas, calamari rings for munching while watching the main event on 24 giant plasma screens. Every seat is good seat for catching all the action. Open from noon for lunch or dinner, it has plenty of distractions for the younger crowd, including foosball, and a video arcade, so Mom and Dad can relax and enjoy their meal.

The moderately priced menu includes all your favorite finger foods and a great selection of local and imported beers. Customer reviews gave Buster's Garage 4.5 stars out of 5 on yellowpages-aruba.com; one declared "my wife and I happened to stumble upon it -but what a find!" Another stated "Owner Rusty is so down to earth. The food was very good and the prices were outstanding for the High-Rise area. Aruba needed a place like this."

Buster's regularly organizes special events with live music. At 10 p.m. it turns into a cozy adult hangout; 18 years and over only allowed, with a DJ on duty nightly and boasting the only beerpong table on Aruba. Aside from a great place to root for the home team or your favorites during playoffs and championships, they regularly carry all UFC fights & WWE events.

Buster's is a great place where island visitors and residents mix and mingle; Monday to Thursday they close at 2:00 a.m., weekends at 4:00 a.m.



HBO: "Game of Thrones" may not cover whole book series



Cast member Sean Bean answers a question as co-star Emilia Clarke looks on.

LOS ANGELES, California) - Thursday they were delighted and surprised at the success of

new fantasy show "Game of Thrones" but they gave no guarantees that the TV series would cover all the books in the series.

"I don't know where the show will end, as opposed to the books," HBO programming chief Michael Lombardo told TV reporters.

"It would be fantastic to be able to say this show will go on for 10 years, and do every aspect of the books. I don't know that will be the case," he added. "We'll see, but we are doing this without any prede-

termined idea of the number of seasons."

"Game of Thrones" is currently reaching about 13.5 million viewers, including repeat episodes, HBO said. The series is derived from the five best-selling novels by George R.R. Martin published so far and production on season two is already underway.

"I think the show was a great surprise to a lot of people. The numbers bear that out. We couldn't be more delighted about the new season," said HBO co-president Richard

Plepler.

But the two executives said decisions on the number of seasons would also depend partly on how long the writers and producers of the TV version want to remain involved.

Lombardo said however that the premium cable channel takes very seriously the passions of fans for the book series.

"Game of Thrones" earned 13 nominations for the 2011 Emmy Awards, including best drama.

Crack the new nightmare of Rio's street kids



People walk along a street in an area popularly known as "Crackland" in downtown Sao Paulo.

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AFP) - Sobbing and playful laughter echo off the walls at Casa Viva, a rehab center in Rio that takes in children who have become addicted to crack, living on the streets like zombies among the trash.

Rio city officials have tallied almost 700 children and adolescents living on the streets who are hooked on alcohol or drugs. Though crack devastated many inner-cities around the world decades ago, it is just starting to do major damage in Brazil.

Authorities said that of all the addicted street kids, some 10-15 percent are now dependent on crack, a cheap cocaine derivative.

"They take crack because it is a less expensive drug, and one they get hold of easily. But the worst thing is that it gets them addicted faster than other drugs, and causes serious neurological damage," Monica Blum, a social worker, told AFP.

At Casa Viva, there are a dozen kids aged 10-14 who are inpatients, being cared for by a team of specially trained doctors, psychologists and addic-

tion counselors.

Tossed out on the tile floor, one of the kids undergoing detox treatment is crying and sobbing: "I want to go home."

But, as he then told a reporter, his "home" is actually the street, to which he ran away about four years earlier to get away from his mother's fearsome physical abuse at home.

Matheus, Josephi and Adrieli are three teenagers proud they have been able to make progress at the home, where they eagerly take part in program activities.

"I was so wasted before coming here that at home, I beat up my grandmother. But then I told her 'I need help'. And she brought me here. When I got here I weighed 23 kilos (51 pounds), but I am doing better now," said Adrieli, 14. She followed her addicted mother into the drug world at the age of 9, Adrieli said.

While they are in treatment, Matheus and Josephi pass the time playing soccer and singing.

Due to neurological damage, crack addicts often have unusual behavior that can be

come violent.

The signs are easy to spot among kids who come to Casa Viva from hillside slums like Jacarezinho, on Rio's north end. Last week alone, 38 adults and 15 kids from the neighborhood were taken to drug treatment centers.

Addiction treatment capacity is phenomenally below need: in a city of seven million there are three treatment centers and 150 beds for inpatients.

Under a new law, authorities can force minors to undergo treatment. But adults have to agree to it. And in most cases, they are unwilling.

"If they have a really high level of dependency, they suffer relapses," said another social worker, Daphne Braga, as she walked toward an area nicknamed Crackland, where slum residents often gather to get high. Some, still wasted and glassy-eyed, march mechanically to a bus stop to head across town.

Others want to stay put where their crack is. Like Rosangela who sleeps on a cardboard box on the sidewalk.

"I am not leaving," she screams. "And you cannot make me go," she says claiming she has been hurt in an earlier effort to move her.

The surge in Brazil's crack consumption -- there are no official statistics -- drove ex-president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to launch rehab programs for young people.

And many kids like Adrieli are grateful that they have seen light at the end of the tunnel.

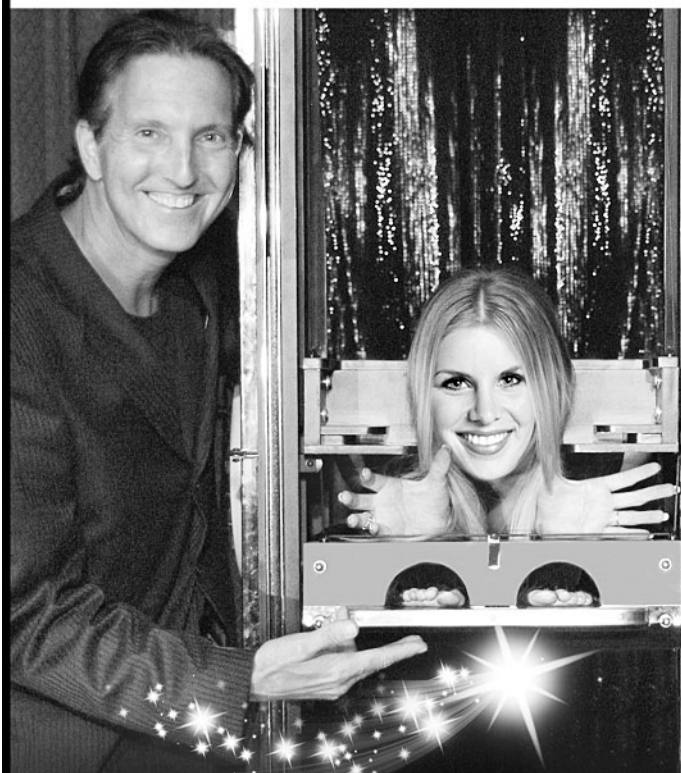
"I want to be a judge, or a lawyer, so that my grandma will be proud of me," she smiles, her eye on a different path in life.

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After mistrial, Clemens wants charge tossed

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Former star baseball pitcher Roger Clemens argued Friday that prosecutors purposely provoked a mistrial in his case and said the charge he lied to Congress about using steroids should be dismissed.

In court documents filed Friday, Clemens' attorney said a new trial would violate his US constitutional right against the double jeopardy of facing the same charge twice.

US District Judge Reggie Walton declared a mistrial in the case after prosecutors went against his orders and showed inadmissible evidence to jurors on just the second day of testimony.

But Clemens' team said prosecutors' introduction of testimony that a teammate once told his wife that Clemens confessed to using a drug "was no accident."

"By the time the government provoked the mistrial, its highly experienced counsel had suffered a series of setbacks that cast doubt on the case against Mr. Clemens," defense attorneys wrote.

Prosecutors have three weeks to respond. Walton has set a September 2 hearing on the retrial issue.

"The government had its day in court and squandered it with misconduct that irretrievably wasted time, money and the opportunity for a one-time, fair resolution of these charges for all involved," Clemens' attorneys wrote in their filing.

Clemens, 48, a seven-time Cy Young Award winner as his league's top pitcher, is charged with perjury, false statements and obstruction of Congress for telling a US House of Representatives committee under oath that he never used steroids or human growth hormone in his Major League Baseball career.

Clemens, 48, was named in the Mitchell Report in December 2007 as one of 86 players who took performance-enhancing drugs but he steadfastly denied the allegations and pushed for a hearing before Congress.

Clemens, nicknamed "Rocket", is one of only four pitchers to have made more than 4,000 strikeouts

during his career.

He won the World Series twice with the New York Yankees in 1999 and 2000. He also played for Boston Red Sox, Toronto Blue Jays and Houston Astros during his 23-year career.

His trial ended abruptly in a mistrial on July 13, when Walton objected to the prosecution's use of a video of Clemens' testimony before the Congressional hearings, which included a clip referring to Laura Pettitte, wife of Clemens' former New York Yankees teammate Andy Pettitte.

Andy Pettitte says that in 1999 or 2000 Clemens told him that he used human growth hormone. Andy Pettitte then told his wife about the conversation. Clemens says his former teammate misheard his words.

Prosecutors had wanted to call Laura Pettitte as a key witness but Walton wasn't pleased with the idea because she had not spoken directly to Clemens.

Singh loses Irish Open lead, Clarke misses cut



Marcel Siem

KILLARNEY (AFP) - Germany's Marcel Siem replaced India's Jeev Milkha Singh at the top of the leaderboard at the Irish Open after a superb finish to his second round on Friday.

Siem eagled the long 16th to join Singh and Denmark's Soren Hansen in first place and then birdied the next hole to move into sole possession of the lead.

He finished with his second successive round of 66, one shot in front of Singh and Hansen and a further shot ahead of Spain's former Ryder Cup player Ignacio Garrido, who finished with

three birdies for a 65.

Singh matched the lowest round of his career in the first

Masson takes surprise lead at British Open



ENGLAND--Playing in the final group, Germany's Caroline Masson shot a flawless seven under par 65 to take the surprise halfway lead at the Women's British Open at

round on Thursday with an eight under par 63.

Darren Clarke and Padraig Harrington both missed the cut, leaving Rory McIlroy and Graeme McDowell to fill the void for the Irish crowds.

McIlroy grabbed three late birdies for a second round 68, while fellow Northern Irishman McDowell, the 22-year-old's predecessor as US Open champion, went two better than that to put both of them on four under par at halfway.

In his first start since his dream British Open victory at Sandwich, 42-year-old Clarke dropped four shots in the last eight holes for a 74 and one over aggregate.

Carnoustie on Friday.

The 22-year-old finished a shot ahead of the field on 11 under par.

Winner of the Ladies' European Tour School in December, Masson finished one ahead of two South Koreans - first round leader, Lee Meena (69), and Park Inbee (64).

Pak Se Ri was in the next group on eight under, while defending champion, Yani Tseng, was well within striking range on seven under following a 66.



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Broad revives England as India hit back

NOTTINGHAM (AFP) - Stuart Broad again proved a thorn in India's side with the bat as he rescued England from total collapse on the first day of the second Test at Trent Bridge here on Friday.

England slumped to 88 for six after losing the toss in overcast, swing-friendly, conditions.

But Broad, batting at number nine on his Nottinghamshire home ground, top-scored with 64 in a total of 221.

India at stumps were 24 for one in reply, a deficit of 197 runs, as they looked to level this four-match series at 1-1 after losing the first Test at Lord's by 196 runs.

Rahul Dravid, who made an unbeaten century at Lord's, was seven not out and Venkatsai Laxman 13 not out after India lost opener Abhinav Mukund to the first ball of their innings when he pushed at James Anderson and was caught in the gully by Kevin Pietersen.

"India certainly won three quarters of the day but we managed to grab a bit of momentum back towards the end and probably ended up a bit disappointed not to pick up more wickets," Broad said.

"Unfortunately we lost six pretty quick wickets but we are still in with a shout of winning the Test match. It is swinging consistently as it always does at Trent Bridge."

Earlier, India's pace trio of Praveen Kumar, Ishant Sharma and Shanthakumaran Sreesanth, recalled in place of the injured Zaheer Khan, all took three wickets apiece.

"I enjoy bowling here (in England)," said Sreesanth, who took three for 77 in 19 overs.

"We missed Zaheer and I was lucky enough to come in. I enjoyed bowling on this wicket and felt like taking it (the pitch) wherever we go."

Sreesanth, who in India's seven-wicket win over England at Trent Bridge in 2007 was fined for shoulder-barging Michael Vaughan and also bowled a beamer at Pietersen, received some flak from the crowd after trying to claim a 'catch' when the ball had bounced in front of him.

But the 28-year-old said the jeers had motivated him in an innings where Kumar took three for 45 and Sharma three for 66.

"I love it, it's better to leave me alone. Thanks to them for cheering me up," Sreesanth explained.

England captain Andrew Strauss and Ian Bell were the only other batsmen apart from Broad to make more than 30.

But Broad, who together with Nottinghamshire colleague Graeme Swann added 73 for the ninth wicket at better than a run-a-ball, said life had been tough for England's top-order.

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Tiger to return next week at WGC event



AKRON (AFP) - Tiger Woods, a 14-time major champion who has struggled with a left knee injury, will play his first competitive event in nearly three months next week at a World Golf Championships tournament.

The former World No. 1 announced Thursday on his website that he will play at the \$8.5 million WGC Bridgestone Invitational at Firestone Country Club in Akron, Ohio -- a course where he has won seven titles.

"I'm excited to get back out there," Woods said.

Woods has not played since May 12 when he withdrew from the Players Cham-

pionship after nine holes after aggravating a strained left knee and left Achilles tendon injury he suffered at the Masters in April.

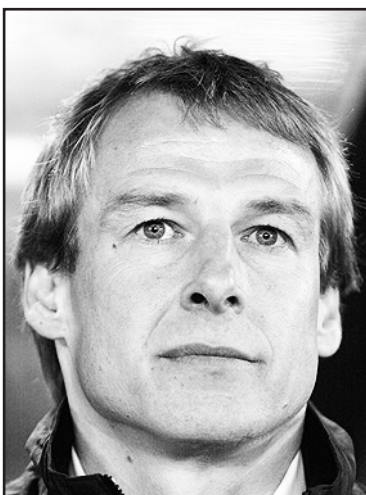
"Feeling fit and ready to tee it up at Firestone next week. Excited to get back out there," Woods said in a posting on his Twitter microblogging account.

Woods, who has fallen to 21st in the rankings, has not won a title since the Australian Masters some 20 months ago, just before the eruption of a sex scandal that ruined his iconic image and led to a divorce from Elin Nordegren.

Woods missed the US Open and British Open on the advice of doctors, resting and rehabilitating his left leg, and has only recently started to hit balls in practice sessions.

How well Woods fares at Akron will likely determine whether or not he competes the following week at the year's final major tournament, the PGA Championship at Atlanta Athletic Club.

Klinsmann named as new US coach



CHICAGO (AFP) - Former German international Jurgen Klinsmann was on Friday named as the new coach of the United States national team to succeed the sacked Bob Bradley with qualification for the 2014 World Cup his prime mission.

"I am proud and honoured to be named the head coach of the US Men's National Football Team," Klinsmann, who turns 47 on Saturday, told US Soccer.

"I would like to thank the US Soccer Federation for the

opportunity, and I'm excited about the challenge ahead.

"I am looking forward to bringing the team together for our upcoming match against Mexico (on August 10 in Philadelphia) and starting on the road towards qualifying for the 2014 World Cup."

US Soccer president Sunil Gulati expressed his delight at the appointment, saying: "We are excited to have Jurgen as the head coach of our men's national team."

"He is a highly accomplished player and coach with the experience and knowledge to advance the program. Jurgen has had success in many different areas of the game and we look forward to the leadership he will provide on and off the field."

As a player, Klinsmann won the 1990 World Cup and 1996 European Championship, and was also a prolific goalscorer at club level for Stuttgarter Kickers, VfB Stuttgart, Inter Milan, Monaco, Tottenham Hotspur, Bayern Munich, and Samp-

doria.

He already has experience of coaching at international level, having led his native Germany to third place at the 2006 World Cup on home soil.

However, he was sacked from his last coaching position at Bayern Munich five games before the end of the 2008/09 season, and has not worked in a dugout since, choosing instead to devote time to his role as a partner with a sports marketing consultancy.

Klinsmann is very familiar with the US, though, having moved to California with his American wife after retiring from playing in 1998.

Klinsmann will be formally unveiled at a press conference in New York on Monday, and will be charged with the task of leading the USA to a seventh consecutive World Cup finals.

After taking on Mexico, the team will also have friendly matches against Costa Rica and Belgium to look forward to before the 2014 qualifying campaign begins in earnest.

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American League					National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB	East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	63	38	.624	--	PHILADELPHIA	65	37	.637	--
NY YANKEES	61	40	.604	2.0	ATLANTA	60	44	.577	6.0
TAMPA	53	49	.520	10.5	NY METS	52	51	.505	13.5
TORONTO	51	52	.495	13	WASHINGTON	50	53	.485	15.5
BALTIMORE	41	58	.414	21.0	FLORIDA	49	53	.480	16.0
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	Central	W	L	Pct	GB
DETROIT	55	48	.534	--	ST. LOUIS	55	48	.534	--
CLEVELAND	52	50	.510	2.5	MILWAUKEE	55	49	.529	0.5
CHICAGO	50	52	.490	4.5	PITTSBURG	53	48	.525	1.0
MINNESOTA	48	55	.466	7.0	CINCINNATI	50	53	.485	5.0
KANSAS	43	60	.417	12.0	CHICAGO	42	61	.408	13.0
West	W	L	Pct	GB	West	W	L	Pct	GB
TEXAS	59	45	.567	--	HOUSTON	33	70	.320	22.0
LA ANGELES	57	48	.543	2.5	SAN FRANCISCO	59	44	.573	--
OAKLAND	46	57	.447	12.5	ARIZONA	56	47	.544	3.0
SEATTLE	43	60	.417	15.5	COLORADO	48	56	.462	11.5
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Lochte rockets to golden treble

SHANGHAI (AFP) - America's Ryan Lochte rocketed to his third gold medal Friday as he continued to take the Shanghai world championships by storm and eclipse faltering team-mate Michael Phelps.

The Olympic champion, a day after setting the first world record since high-tech swimsuits were banned last year, led from start to finish in the 200m backstroke to reclaim the title he won in 2007.

Lochte timed 1min 52.96sec ahead of Japan's Ryosuke Irie and Tyler Clary of the United States. He earlier beat Phelps to win both the 200m freestyle and the 200m individual medley, which he won in record time.

Minutes earlier, the championships witnessed only their



third ever dead-heat final -- and the second in four days of action -- as Denmark's Jeanette Ottesen and Aliaksandra Herasimenia of Belarus both finished the women's 100m

freestyle in 53.45.

Uncannily, the unusual event happened after Camille Lacourt and Jeremy Stravius became France's first male world champions with identical times in the 100m backstroke on Tuesday.

Before Shanghai only one world final had ever finished in a dead heat, when Italy's Filippo Magnini and Canadian Brent Hayden shared the 100m freestyle title in 2007.

At the last world championships in 2009, polyurethane-clad swimmers set a whopping 43 world records in farcical scenes at Rome's Foro Italico. The suits helped break more than 200 global bests before they were outlawed.

Out-of-sorts Phelps is expected to be part of the United States 4x200m freestyle team later on Friday as he attempts to add a second gold medal in Shanghai and escape the shadow cast by the fast-rising Lochte.

FIBA ruling opens global options during NBA lockout

NEW YORK (AFP) - NBA players looking at other options for next season during the league's ongoing lockout received a global golden ticket on Friday when FIBA announced it will approve transfers to other leagues.

The move opens the door for such talents as LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Kobe Bryant to sign with clubs worldwide until the lockout is settled. Whether or not superstars take advantage of the opportunity is a different matter.

After all, injury insurance is the responsibility of players and not their NBA clubs, so players are at their own risk or clubs who sign superstars will be faced with a hefty insurance bill.

New Jersey Nets star Deron Williams signed with Turkey's Besiktas, but the deal allows him to opt out and return to the NBA once the lockout ends.

Sonny Weems, a free agent who played three NBA seasons, signed a one-year deal to play for Lithuania's Zalgiris Kaunas rather than risk the NBA losing an entire

season. As a free agent he would not face recall to an NBA club.

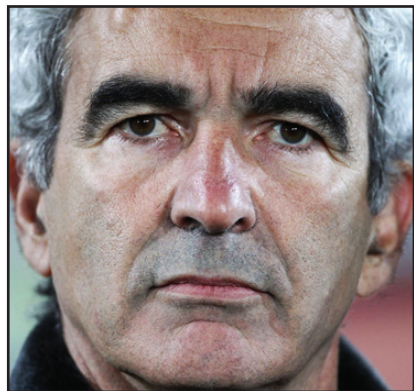
NBA club owners locked out players July 1 after their bargaining agreement expired, claiming only eight of 30 teams are profitable and salary cuts are needed in order to sustain the league.

Players want to avoid a tight salary cap, hoping to maintain the exceptions that allow clubs to overspend to try and avoid losing top talent to rivals, and other cutbacks.

But unlike the NFL lockout that ended this week, which saw both sides trying to divide \$9.3 billion in revenues from the most popular American spectator sport, the NBA conflict finds owners pleading poverty and players saying the owners need to solve their problems without taking money from players' pockets.

The NBA is already seeking an owner for the league-operated New Orleans Hornets during the economic downturn, which helped push owners into sparking the first NBA shutdown since the

Domenech to settle for 1million euro settlement



likely they will rubber-stamp it in order to stop the case going to an employment tribunal.

Domenech had claimed 2.9 million euros in compensation while the FFF have been seeking to reclaim World Cup bonuses that Domenech refuses to return.

Earlier this month, Le Graet expressed his hope that a "definitive solution" would be found in early August.

Domenech led France to a runners-up finish at the 2006 World Cup in Germany but the rest of his tenure, which began in 2004, became synonymous with failure.

After a group-stage exit at the 2008 European Championship, France were eliminated at the same stage of last year's World Cup with only a single point and a single goal to their credit.

PARIS (AFP) - Former France coach Raymond Domenech, sacked for misconduct after the 2010 World Cup, has agreed a 1million euros (gross) settlement from the French football federation (FFF). AFP has learned from sources close to the case.

The agreement with FFF president Noel Le Graet still needs to be ratified by the executive committee of the federation at a meeting in Paris on August 4 but it appears



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